

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/705,361

Examiner

Christine M. Behncke

Applicant(s)

DEWEES, THOMAS GERRET

Art Unit

3661

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 3 August 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-22.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 4/26/2005
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Thomas G. Beach
THOMAS G. BEACH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
GROUP 3608

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. **Claims 1-22** are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding **Claim 1**, the prior art of record does not teach or fairly suggest the claimed method comprising, among other things: placing a pair of driver-visible lines on in, on or near the windshield of a vehicle, being obliquely positioned relative to the horizontal and converging towards one another at the upper ends, being generally parallel to the respective right/left lane lines in a roadway, thereby producing in the peripheral vision a double image of each driver-visible lines, the double image comprising inner and outer left line images and inner and outer right line images and the inner left and the right line images defining a conceptual zone of safety between them.

Regarding **Claims 9 and 13**, the prior art of record does not teach or fairly suggest the claimed method and system comprising, among other things: providing a light source near the near a vehicle windshield to make a reflection of a pair of light lines within the vehicle and visible to the driver, the lines being oriented to appear to the driver to be generally parallel to the respective left/right side lane line in a roadway, and an automatic means connected to the steering wheel of the vehicle and responsive to the rotational position of the steering wheel for adjusting the curvature of the left and right lines seen as reflections in accordance with the steering wheel position, thereby producing in the peripheral vision a double image of each driver-visible lines, the double image comprising inner and outer left line images and inner and outer right line images

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and the inner left and the right line images defining a conceptual zone of safety between them.

Regarding **Claim 21**, the prior art of record does not teach or fairly suggest the claimed system comprising, among other things: providing a light source near the rear of a vehicle windshield to make a reflection of a pair of light lines within the vehicle and visible to the driver, the lines being adjustable and converging towards one another at the upper ends and a separate remote control device allowing the driver to set the apparent positions of the left/right driver visible lines as reflected by adjusting the light source, thereby producing in the peripheral vision a double image of each driver-visible line, the double image comprising inner and outer left line images and inner and outer right line images and the inner left and the right line images defining a conceptual zone of safety between them.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

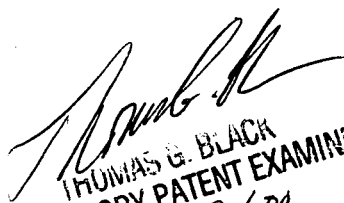
Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christine M. Behncke whose telephone number is (571) 272-8103. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:30 AM - 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas G. Black can be reached on (571) 272-6956. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

01-20-2006


THOMAS G. BLACK
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